

**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY NOTICE OF PUBLIC MEETING AND AN
OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC COMMENT**

PUBLIC MEETING: March 2, 2010 at the West Point Downtown Business Center at 621 Main Street, West Point, VA 23181. An afternoon public meeting will be held at 2pm and the evening public meeting at 6pm.

PURPOSE OF NOTICE: The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality and the Department of Conservation and Recreation are announcing the draft report of a study to restore water quality for a shellfish growing area, recreational use areas, a public comment opportunity, and two public meetings. The draft report will be available on DEQ's website the day of the meetings at:
<https://www.deq.virginia.gov/TMDLDataSearch/DraftReports.aspx>

MEETING DESCRIPTION: Final public meetings on a study to restore the recreational use areas of the Lower Mattaponi and Lower Pamunkey Rivers and the recreational use and shellfish growing area of the Upper York River near West Point. These waterways are impaired due to bacterial violations.

List of Shellfish Waterbodies Requiring TMDL Development				
Cause Group Code	Shellfish Condemnation Area	Waterbody Name	Impairment	Estuary Area (mi ²)
F26E-20-SF	049-004A (08/25/2005)	York River	Fecal Coliform	7.218

List of Recreation Waterbodies Requiring TMDL Development			
Cause Group Code	Waterbody Name	Impairment	Estuary Area (mi ²)
F26E-05-BAC	York River	Enterococcus	6.966
F14E-03-BAC	Pamunkey River	Enterococcus	4.368
F25E-01-BAC	Mattaponi River	Enterococcus	2.535
		Total	13.899

DESCRIPTION OF STUDY: Virginia agencies have been working to identify sources of the bacterial contamination of the Lower Mattaponi and Lower Pamunkey Rivers and the recreational use and shellfish growing area of the Upper York River near West Point. All impairments lie within portions of King and Queen, King William, and New Kent Counties. These streams are impaired for failure to meet the designated use of shellfish consumption and/or recreational use because of bacterial water quality standard violations.

The draft study reports the current status of the waterbodies via sampling performed by the Virginia Department of Health - Division of Shellfish Sanitation, DEQ, and the possible sources of bacterial contamination. The study recommends total maximum daily loads, or TMDLs, for the impaired waters. A TMDL is the total amount of a pollutant a water body can contain and still meet water quality standards. To restore water quality, bacterial levels have to be reduced to the TMDL amount.

HOW TO COMMENT: DEQ accepts written comments by e-mail, fax, or postal mail. Written comments should include the name, address, and telephone number of the person commenting and be received by DEQ during the comment period, which will expire on April 1, 2010.

CONTACT FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

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